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SCHOOL DISTRICT 428 BOARD OF EDUCATION
MINUTES OF A REGULAR MEETING CONDUCTED
January 17th, 2014
9:40a.m. – 12:10 p.m.

A regular School Board Meeting of School District 428 was held on Friday, January 17th, at 9:40 a.m., at JRTC 100 W. Randolph St. Chicago, IL.

The meeting was called to order by Director Bishop. Delores McKinney called roll call for those present at IYC Chicago. Present in attendance were; Arthur Bishop; Director of IDJJ and President of the School Board; James Gunnell, School Board Member; Donald Smoot; School Board Member, Anthony Grady, School Board Member; Mary Reynolds; Intergovernmental Relations Chief, Rick Gravatt; Acting School District Superintendent, Delores McKinney; Administrative Assistant; Assistant Director of IDOC, Gladys Taylor, Josie Day (telephone); Carl Ellis, School Board Member (telephone); David Green, School Board Member (telephone); Christine Boyd, Education Administrator of IDOC, (telephone); Bob Eifert, Education Administrator of IDOC (telephone).

MINUTES:

James Gunnell noted that there were some errors in the October 29th, 2013 and November 15th, 2013 school board minutes. Mr. Gunnell made corrections to the minutes and a motion to accept the minutes as revised. Arthur Bishop seconded the motion. The motion was carried and the minutes accepted.

A motion was made by Donald Smoot to adapt a policy to allow board members to participate in the school board meetings via video or teleconference. Anthony Grady made a second the motion was accepted. The motion was carried.

Business:

Director Bishop introduced David Green as the new school board member. David Green gave a brief background of his professional experience to the board.

Director Bishop addressed the school board about the following IDJJ related issues.

- Implementation of a Sexual Abuse Hotline
- Staffing of all Juvenile facilities with a Superintendent, Superintendent of Operations and Superintendent of Programs except Harrisburg which currently has an Interim Superintendent.

Acting Superintendent of Schools gave a brief background of previous actions and discussions concerning the juveniles in adult corrections.

Assistant Director Taylor addressed the school board about the willingness of IDOC to work cooperatively with IDJJ and the 428 School Board to form an educational plan. Assistant Director Taylor with Christine Boyd and Bob Eifert discussed previous meeting that had been held with Acting Superintendent Gravatt, IDJJ Director Bishop and other IDJJ representatives. Assistant Director Taylor offered to assist with obtaining educational data on the juveniles in adult corrections and make this information available within a two week period. Director Taylor suggested that an education plan could include designating sites in close proximity to the Juvenile Justice sites. Director Taylor had to leave the meeting after the discussion on juveniles in adult corrections to attend another appointment.

Acting Superintendent of Schools Gravatt addressed the school board and presented the updated school mission statement. It was suggested that this would be an action item on the next board meeting. School board members were to present suggestion to Delores McKinney on any changes to the proposed mission statement.

Acting Superintendent of School Gravatt presented a School District Roadmap identifying most of the school district issues and what actions have been taken with each major project.

Mr. Gravatt requested approval from the school board to begin making purchases of textbooks for all six facilities to create a more blended educational program to meet the needs of all students. Mr. Gunnell suggested that there was no need for the school board to approve such actions since they have already approved the budget for these expenses. Mr. Smoot agreed that the school board did not need to approve this type of actions.

Mr. Gravatt informed the school board that he planned on sending his staff to the NCLB conference in Chicago on February 18th – 20th.

Mr. Gravatt reminded the school board to review the ISBE School Recognition tool that had been presented at the November 2013 meeting and be ready to present any suggestions for modifications of the tool that will be used by the State Board to evaluate our district.

Mary Reynolds addressed the board about progress and actions being taken to create draft school board policies. She stated that we will present some draft policies for the board to review and provide suggestions at the board meeting in February.

Director Bishop needed to leave the meeting to attend another appointment. This would mean that a quorum would no longer be present and further actions could not be taken.

Donald Smoot made a motion to adjourn the meeting, second by Anthony Grady. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Rick Gravatt,
Acting School Superintendent